

Appl. No. 10/622,954
Amdt. Dated Sep. 23, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Jun. 23, 2004
Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A spacer for providing a space between stacked rows of transceiver module shielding cages, comprising:

a base having at least a hole for allowing air to follow therethrough and at least one conductive passageway defined therethrough for providing electrical and thermal conductivity between the rows of shielding cages.

Claim 2 (original): The spacer as described in claim 1, wherein a plurality of venting holes is defined through the base for good air ventilation.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The spacer as described in claim 1, wherein the at least one conductive passageway ~~[[is]]~~ comprises a plurality of posts each defining a press-fit hole therein.

Claim 4 (original): The spacer as described in claim 1, wherein the spacer is made of a lightweight, electrically and thermally conductive material.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The spacer as described in claim 4, wherein the material is ~~Aluminum~~ aluminum.

Claim 6 (original): The spacer as described in claim 1, wherein the spacer is die-cast.

Claim 7 (original): The spacer as described in claim 1, wherein a plurality of protrusions extends from the base for benefiting air ~~flows~~ flow.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A shielding cage assembly comprising:
a printed circuit board;
a shielding cover mounted ~~[[unto]]~~ onto the printed circuit board and cooperating with the printed circuit board to define therebetween a cavity extending in a front-to-back direction;

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upper and lower conductive cages stacked, via a spacer therebetween, with each other in said cavity under said shielding cover;

at least a lower dividing wall located in the lower cage; and

at least an upper dividing wall located in the upper cage in alignment with said at least one lower dividing wall in a vertical direction perpendicular to said front-to-back direction;

said upper cage and said lower cage being shorter than said at least one upper dividing wall and said at least one lower dividing wall in said front-to-back direction, wherein

at least one of said at least one upper dividing wall and said at least one lower dividing wall includes a vertical protrusion extending toward the other[[.]] and mechanically and electrically engaged with the other for shielding and grounding.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The assembly as claimed in claim 8, wherein said cover substantially has a same dimension with [[the]] said at least one upper dividing wall and [[the]] said at least one lower dividing wall in said front-to-back direction so as to fully cover said at least one upper dividing wall and said at least one lower dividing wall vertically.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A shielding cage assembly comprising:

a printed circuit board;

a shielding cover mounted [[unto]] onto the printed circuit board and cooperating with the printed circuit board to define therebetween a cavity extending in a front-to-back direction;

upper and lower conductive cages stacked, via a conductive spacer therebetween, with each other in [[said]] the cavity under [[said]] the shielding cover;

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the upper cage and the lower cage being shorter than the shielding cover in said front-to-back direction; and

an electrical connector located in the cavity under the shielding cover and behind the upper and lower cages; wherein

said electrical connector defines upper and lower mating ports in respective alignment with the corresponding upper and lower ~~[[cage]]~~ cages in ~~[[the]]~~ said front-to-back direction, and further includes conductive elements located between said upper and lower mating ports and mechanically and electrically engaged with the spacer.